

The Pentecost Sunday

15 MAY 2016

YEAR C



Jubilee
Year of
Mercy
2015/16

Next Week's Readings

1st Reading : Prov 8:22-31

2nd Reading : Rom 5:1-5

Gospel : Jn 16-12-15

RESPONSE

*Lord, send out your
Spirit and renew
the face of the earth*

ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and
kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia!*

What is Pentecost? Nine key things to know about Pentecost

Pentecost is one of the great festivals of the Church. In modern popular culture it isn't nearly as well known as Christmas or Easter, but for Christians it's profoundly significant. It marks the coming of the Holy Spirit on blessed Virgin Mary and the disciples and their transformation from frightened and confused people to men who would face martyrdom for what they believed.



- Pentecost means '50'**- Pentecost is from the Greek word 'Pentekostos', which means 'fifty'. It's the 50th day after the Sabbath of Passover week and in Judaism is called the Feast of Weeks (Leviticus 23:16).
- It's traditionally celebrated as Whitsun - 'White Sunday'**. It's believed that this is because it was a day for baptisms and those being baptised would wear white. Another explanation is that it derives from the Anglo-Saxon word 'wit', which we still use for verbal cleverness but which meant 'understanding' - Pentecost was when God poured out the wisdom of the Spirit.
- There's debate about speaking in tongues** - Luke tells the story in Acts 2:1-13. Some scholars think he was referring to an experience of 'glossalalia' or speaking in tongues, an ecstatic outpouring of praise in an unknown language. Others point out that what the disciples said seems to have been understood by their hearers.
- Pentecost is the fulfilment of two promises** - One promise is in the Old Testament - Joel 2:28, which says "I will pour out my Spirit on all people", and one in the New, where Jesus says he will send another Counsellor, the Spirit of truth (John 16: 5-15).
- Modern day Pentecostals emphasise the gifts of the Spirit** - Pentecostals are so called because of the emphasis they place on the gifts of the Spirit, particularly speaking in tongues. They stress the possibility of a direct personal experience of God, like the first disciples, which - just as it was then - is often manifested in dramatic ways. Modern Pentecostals trace their origins to the Azusa Street Revival in 1906 Los Angeles
- There was wind ...** - Luke tells of three distinct experiences. A violent wind filled the house: breath or wind is a symbol of the Spirit of God. Ezekiel 37 tells the story of the prophet's vision of a valley of dry bones which come together: when the 'breath' of God enters them, they come to life and stand on their feet. The Pentecost wind represents the power of God to bring life to the 'dry bones' of faith
- ... and tongues of fire...** - Tongues of fire separate and come to rest on each of them. Jesus told his disciples, "You are the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14). In John 8:12 he says, "I am the light of the world." The picture in Acts seems to be of a single flame that separates and symbolically rests on each of them; the disciples will do what Jesus did.
- ...and other languages** - The nature of the original experience has been queried, but in Luke's telling of it the point is that it breaks down barriers between people. The story links back to one of the earliest of the Old Testament stories, in Genesis 11, when the people begin to build the huge Tower of Babel. God confuses their language so they can no longer understand each other. At Pentecost, this Babel confusion is reversed
- Pentecost is the birthday of the Church** - It marks the beginning of Christianity as a purposeful movement and a new community. When Peter preached immediately afterwards, around 3,000 people believed and were baptised.

"Amoris Laetitia" ("The Joy of Love")

Divorced and remarried Catholics need to be more fully integrated into the church. How? By looking at the specifics of their situation, by remembering "mitigating factors," by counselling them in the "internal forum," (that is, in private conversations between the priest and person or couple), and by respecting that the final decision about the degree of participation in the church is left to a person's conscience (305, 300). (The reception of Communion is not spelled out here, but that is a traditional aspect of "participation" in church life.) Divorced and remarried couples should be made to feel part of the church. "They are not excommunicated and should not be treated as such, since they remain part" of the church (243).

A prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit
that my thoughts may all be holy;
Act in me O Holy Spirit
that my works, too, may be holy;
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit
that I love but what is holy;
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit
to defend that is holy;
Guard me then O Holy Spirit
that I always may be holy.
St. Augustine of Hippo (AD 354-430)



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING AND THEIR FAMILIES

RECENTLY DECEASED: The Parish family offer its prayers and condolences to the family and friends of **Maria Eyseno**

ANNIVERSARIES: Julian Watycha, Sarah Wilcox, Ronald Williamson, Heinz Dohle, Maya Hornsby, Antonius Agus Siswanto, Margaret McCluskey,

Terry McKelvey, Brian Watt, Antonio Turk

An important letter from Denis J. Hart, Archbishop of Melbourne



James Gould House
PO Box 146
East Melbourne Vic 8002
Australia

13 May 2016

Dear Parishioners,

Following recent coverage in the media about Father Joseph Doyle, it is important that I communicate with you about the circumstances of his resignation as Parish Priest in 2005.

In September 2005, Father Doyle met with me and informed me that he had been reported to the Melbourne Response for sexually abusing two boys in the early 1970s. At that meeting Father Doyle submitted his resignation.

Following the conclusion of an investigation into the two complaints, Mr Peter O'Callaghan QC, the Independent Commissioner under the Melbourne Response, advised me that he had upheld the complaints. Mr O'Callaghan recommended that Father Doyle's resignation be accepted and that he cease to act as a priest.

I accepted the resignation of Father Doyle so that he could be immediately withdrawn from the Parish. I directed that he must not act publicly as a priest.

I acknowledge and regret that the failure to inform the Parish of the reasons for his resignation has caused pastoral confusion and distress. Since the departure of Father Doyle, other parish communities have been informed of the reasons when priests have been withdrawn from their parish while investigations are undertaken or when an investigation has upheld the complaint.

I am confident that, through the work of the Archdiocese and Catholic Education Melbourne, committed and genuine efforts are being made in our parishes and schools to ensure that a safe and secure environment is provided for every child under our care, and that the terrible abuse of trust that has been uncovered by the Melbourne Response and Royal Commission never occurs again.

Should any member of the Parish community have any information related to child abuse, historic or otherwise, I strongly recommend that contact be made with the SANO Taskforce of Victoria Police who can be contacted on 1800 110 007.

This weekend on the Feast of Pentecost I pray that the gifts of the Holy Spirit will enlighten our hearts and minds. May the peace of the risen Lord strengthen your community at this time.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+ Denis J. Hart

ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE

FEAST OF THE WEEK

20 May - St. Bernadette of Siena

THANKSGIVING

Church \$1,762.00 Presbytery \$1,030.00

Retired Priest & Archdiocese)

PARISH DIARY

18 May New Parish Secretary to commence her work .
The Office hours will be the same as usual
(Wed-Fri, 9:30~2:30)

22 May : **Trinity Sunday**

29 May : **The Body and Blood of Christ,**
Mass for the poor, SVDP winter appeal

F.Y.I.

The training of the Ministers of Holy
Communion will be after the 10AM Mass next
Sunday, 22 May 2016 at the Adoration Chapel.



Cancer Council Fundraiser

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST AFTERNOON TEA

Every dollar raised goes directly to the cancer council

When: Saturday, 21st May 2016

Time: 2pm

Where: Our Lady of Lourdes Bingo Hall

Entry Fee: \$15/person OR \$10/person who brings a plate
of food to share!

**Come & Join us to help raise money for the Cancer Council, &
have a fun afternoon with old friends and New!**